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## Western Area Power Administration

*Powering the energy frontier*

Today, WAPA celebrates 45 years as a power marketing administration, safely providing reliable, cost-based hydropower and transmission to customers and millions of Americans we all serve. It has been an incredible journey for the organization and the people closely intertwined with its legacy and success, both employees and customers alike. We have delivered on our mission and capably managed through periods of drought and hydrological surplus, increasingly extreme storms and wildfires and countless calls for mutual aid now for four and a half decades.

WAPA's first day as an organization was Oct. 1, 1977; however, we celebrate the day we were bestowed with the name Western Area Power Administration on Dec. 21 of that year as our anniversary. Forty-five years is perhaps not a seminal anniversary, like the 40-year or 50-year anniversaries, but it is still important to commemorate how much we have been able to achieve together, WAPA and customers, side-by-side in our successful government-community partnership.



We have and continue to play a meaningful and significant role in our evolving industry and in a fast-moving energy landscape. We joined organized markets where we believed it to be beneficial for ourselves and customers, defended against rising cybersecurity threats and constructed and rebuilt segments of the transmission system now integral to energy delivery across our footprint. Yet for all the change we have witnessed, what is truly remarkable is what remains the same: our mission and our crucial partnerships with our customers.

The complexities we face as an industry continue to grow but our mission and common purpose of providing community-owned power serve as a beacon—a beacon that guides us daily but is more important during periods of uncertainty and when we are faced with tough decisions.

I find it especially poignant that we have a new strategic plan to herald our 45th year. For what are anniversaries but times for recommitment, affirmation of partnerships and a commemoration of all we have accomplished in the past. I look forward to leaning into our shared ideals and goals in WAPA's *Power Forward 2030* strategic plan to further inspire us.

Thank you for your heartfelt support over the past 45 years. Together, customers and WAPA employees will continue to chart our shared course toward a bright future.

Happy 45th anniversary, WAPA, and happy holidays to all of you.

**Tracey A. LeBeau | Administrator and Chief Executive Officer**

Department of Energy

Western Area Power Administration | Headquarters

Western Area Power Administration  
12155 W Alameda Pkwy Lakewood Colorado 80228 United States  
This email was sent to: [barendsen@wapa.gov](mailto:barendsen@wapa.gov)  
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